

CAREER OF THE FAMOUS SAGE OF OKOLONA IS REPLETE WITH INTERESTING ANECDOTES

STORY OF FALL AND RISE READS LIKE FICTION TALE

Born the Son of Wealthy Plantation Owner, He Loses All as Result of Civil War and Through "Weakness" of Generosity.

(Continued from Sixth Page.)

had me, Colonel," said Lewis, as Colonel Gordon enumerated his pledges.

"I am out of the race, Lewis," said the late-pursued Gordon. "I am going to tell my people to vote for you. My wife is an invalid and always will be. It's a question of love or politics, and I am going to stand by love."

And Lewis came to the House of Representatives while Gordon nursed his wife at home. She remained an invalid from 1887 to 1903, when her death came. These years, too, marked the waning of the colonel's immense fortune, and brought the only poverty he has ever known.

This brings us once more to Colonel Gordon, aristocrat, and his milk wagon. "Well—uh—uh—" he began in the little choking way that during his long interview had become so familiar to me. "I didn't know what to do. I didn't seem to want to live. I was so cast down over her death. So I decided I'd run for the State senate, just to have some way to forget. I was elected and on the way down I met her," pointing to a comely woman, much his junior in years, who sat smiling at him from the other side of the room.

"Shall I tell him about it?" he faltered.

Mrs. Gordon, the second, merely laughed understandingly.

Way He Won His Second Wife.

"Yes, yes, I met her. Our courtship was short and she says she married me because I courted differently. I told her: 'Now, I cannot promise now to love you as well as I did my first wife, but I am a gentleman and I know how to treat a woman.'

"And this is what she said to me, didn't you?"

"Colonel, all the other widowers have always promised to love me better than the first wife. You seem frank about it, and I am going to accept you."

Just then Senator Gordon stroked his gray beard rather nervously, chuckling the while, and Mrs. Gordon became busy arranging the papers upon her husband's desk.

If there is any congeniality or love lacking between the two I was unable to discover it, and finally we all agreed that their marriage was as happy a one as though it had occurred in life's springtime.

The present Mrs. Gordon is a woman of considerable means. She has her bank account and the Senator, as his wife, she says that the Senator is a pretty good business manager, even though he does insist upon the away all he possesses.

Before his second marriage, however, Colonel Gordon had landed upon his feet

financially and he doesn't have to ride through his native town of Okolona on a milk wagon.

Writes Poetry When a Child.

He has written poetry since he was a child—in times of adversity and of plenty. His themes are pastoral and some of his best and most sympathetic verses are indited to the negro. Senator Gordon told the Senate the other day that he loved the negro and to show that the tribute came from the heart he read them this about his old "black mammy":

"She was lovely to me in her colored baplanina With which she turbaned her head; Her songs were far sweeter than flute or piano As she put me to sleep in my bed; Her soft crooning voice I can never forget. Like an angel in dreams, she comes to me yet."

They say in Mississippi that no "darky" who ever worked for Jim Gordon as a slave ever has stayed in jail over night.

"I'm 'Colonel Gordon' until they get in trouble," the Senator explained. "Then I'm 'Marse Jimmy.' Yes, I always take them out. No Gordon 'nigger' ever went to the penitentiary for some little petty offense."

That Senate speech was an insight into the heart of this man as I found him. Unaffected, paternal, gentle, and with a modesty that is almost pathetic, he did not realize that he had done or said anything out of the ordinary. He spoke as one inspired, his tall, swaying form, bedecked in none of the habiliments with which others are wont to lend Senatorial dignity, a striking figure in the background of fast-filling seats.

A few of the gems of good fellowship that fell from his lips should find repetition here, for this is a character study of a remarkable man. He said: Never Lets Hate Get Into His Heart.

"I love everybody. I am a happy man. I never let hate get into my heart so as to make me unhappy. I am tired of sectionalism. God knows I got enough of fighting. I do not want any more of it. I do not want to hear a speech in the Senate or elsewhere that stirs up strife between the old soldiers or citizens."

"Nobody can take away the glories of either side. A man had as well attempt to scale the ramparts of Jehovah and pluck from heaven's diadem God's brightest star as to snatch the laurel from the brow of the conqueror or the conquered that stood under the apple tree of Appomattox."

This is the spirit of forgetfulness and forgiveness that is in the bosom of Col.

INTERESTING POINTS IN GORDON'S CAREER

Worth more than \$20,000,000 at the close of the war, Colonel Gordon lost all through generosity.

Less than ten years ago he plowed on a farm and peddled milk in the streets of Okolona, from which town he went to the Senate.

Spent his last dime for a mint julep; found a ten-cent piece on walking to the street, and a few moments later received \$50 he had loaned to a friend before the war.

Nursed an invalid wife for nearly twenty years, and because he did not want to leave her refused a Democratic Congressional nomination which would have resulted in certain victory at the polls.

Motto of the Senator's life is that "money has never made any man happy," and that the sweetest memories are those concerning the manner in which, by spending money on others people are made to reap pure enjoyment.

James Gordon, Senator-for-the-time, from Mississippi. He speaks with a glorious rondo behind him. He fought from the Potomac to the Gulf, always under fire and at the head of his regiment.

This regiment he fitted out himself and the story of its deeds of daring would make a book in itself. When Colonel Gordon had equipped, with his own money, his 129 men, he wired to General Walker, Confederate secretary of war, that he wanted to come to Richmond. General Walker couldn't furnish transportation, so he paid no heed to the request. Gordon wrote again, and then again. At last he telegraphed, demanding the right to fight. General Walker wired him to go to — Two months later Gordon turned up in Richmond. He had paid his regiment's way.

"What are you doing here?" asked General Walker. "My regiment is here ready to fight," said Gordon. "You wired me to go to — and I thought I'd better come to Richmond."

"I've great mind to have you court-martialed," said the general; but he didn't, and Gordon and his regiment moved on to Fairfax and got into the fray, where they stayed until Colonel Gordon was sent to Europe to fit out that scouting ship for the Confederacy near the close of the war.

He fought under Major Generals Price, Van Dorn, William H. Jackson, and Forest, and, originally, under General Stuart in the Virginia campaign. His Washington experience has rounded out most appropriately an eventful life. Through all his vicissitudes he has never forgotten the belief instilled in him at the age of five by a mother, whose name he never mentions today without it bringing the tears. His several terms in the Legislature of his own

SHERMAN OVERLOOKED IN SEAT DISTRIBUTION

Senator Gordon Buys Box for Mr. Sherman and Then Breaks Precedent by Getting Box Reserved for President Taft and Inviting Him.

State, he regarded as but stepping stones to the United States Senate, yet, somehow, the day was deferred until December 27, 1904, when Governor Noel, without informing the venerable Gordon of his plans, made the appointment that fulfilled the dreams of a lifetime.

Many men have come to the United States Senate and many have achieved fame, while others have left unremembered. It is a just tribute to Colonel Gordon to say that genuine regret will mark his passing from the stage of Washington's political life. His gentle presence has been a benediction and his going will bring to more than one a feeling of loneliness.

He takes it philosophically, for he only came to stay a few days. That the deadlock lasted and that he remained longer than was his first intent, was but the means of prolonging a vacation in his declining years. He is going to break another precedent before he goes. Just one more little anecdote, and I bid a fond farewell to Colonel Gordon.

According to the story, Senator Gordon inadvertently overlooked Vice President Sherman when he distributed 152 seats to his ninety-one associate Senators last Wednesday and invited them to be his guests at the opening of a Gentleman From Mississippi tomorrow evening. When one of the oldest members of the Senate called his attention to the oversight the picturesque Mississippian appeared at the box office.

He wanted the two boxes nearest the stage on each side of the theater. I reckon I shan't make any more mistakes.

Whereupon the box office man explained there was only one stage box for sale, the other always being reserved for the President.

"That's all right, young man," reported 'Colonel Gordon, amiably. "The President shall have his box, sir. And the Vice President is going to get the other. But I want to buy them both—and have them as my guests, along with all my Senators. The President's box is never sold, but it made no difference to the smiling old Mississippian."

If I can't pay for the President's box let me have the tickets anyway. I know the President would rather get them from me just this once than to come in the ordinary way."

Senator Gordon walked away with the tickets for the two boxes.

Soon a telephone message from the White House said the President's box would be occupied by the President and his family Monday evening. The manager of the theater broke records locating Senator Gordon.

"Don't you worry about it, sir," explained the patriarchal Southerner with just a suspicion of a chuckle. "I mailed that box to the President three hours ago, and I sent him a letter along with it, sir, that I judge likely will bring him to my party, whether this box business is regular or not."

There is a wealth of anecdote concerning the retiring, benevolent statesman from Mississippi. One is that his chief delight since reaching Washington has been to telegraph "John" and "Bill" and "Jim" back home how well he liked the job here. His book of franks was soon exhausted.

Here are some of the things he admitted about himself, and also some things that others had to tell me.

He smokes one cigar a day. Once he stopped the habit for a year because some one had hinted that his second wife didn't like tobacco smoke, but he wouldn't ask her about it.

He declares that he never refused a social drink and that he never took one too many.

He graduated at the State University of Mississippi. He admits that he was such a care-free college student that he didn't take first honors, but says that those who did receive college honors have received none other since.

When he was appointed to the United States Senate he rented on the cows on his dairy farm back home.

He is an early riser, in Washington or elsewhere, and likes to see the sun peep over the eastern horizon.

One of his most important acts he regards the securing while in the State Legislature of convict labor to build the Gulf and Sky Island railway.

He has offered more than once to withdraw from politics if any man from his old home failed to speak a kind word for Jim Gordon.

And, in farewell, this being a tribute of my own, he is one of the most lovable, engaging, quaint and beloved characters ever to sit in the halls of Congress, and 'twill be a long time before we see his like again.

AUKUM CONSIDERED FOR POLICE JUDGE

Present Municipal Court Magistrate Recommended to President by Citizens.

The President is seriously considering the recommendation of numerous prominent citizens of the District that Municipal Court Judge George C. Aukum be appointed to the Police Court bench to succeed Judge Ivory G. Kinnall.

Yesterday, Senators Sherman and Overman of North Carolina and Representative Page of the same State called on the President and urged the advisability of the appointment of Aukum.

The favor with which the President is said to regard Aukum is taken as a sign that he may end the period of waiting for Judge Kinnall's successor. The President will take it up with the Attorney General before deciding the matter definitely.

WARNS PRESIDENT TO QUIT CANNON

Lecturer Declares West Is Closely Watching Developments in Legislation.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 27.—That the Middle West is greatly opposed to Aldrich and to Cannon, that Western Republicans are waiting to pass judgment on President Taft when he has had time to develop his Administration further, and that the entire United States, including New York and Chicago, will be dry territory within ten years, are statements made by former Gov. Edward W. Hoch, of Kansas, who is in the city to address the Sunday Evening Club this evening.

It cannot be said that President Taft is popular in the West as yet, said former Governor Hoch, who last year completed his second term as chief executive in the Sunflower State. "The Western States are merely waiting to see what his Administration will develop. Roosevelt is popular, but I have not heard any serious talk of turning 'ait out of the White House."

DEBATERS ARE CHOSEN.

W. A. Maione, of Massachusetts, and Girard M. Cohen, of Georgia, will represent the senior debating society of the Georgetown Law School in the second term debate in Gaston Hall next month. The topic for discussion has not been chosen.

OFFICIAL GREETING FOR COL. ROOSEVELT

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—A committee representing the city officially and working with the national committee will be selected by Mayor Gaynor to assist in the welcome home to Colonel Roosevelt. The mayor's plan will prevent any conflict on the question of whether the city should recognize the return of Colonel Roosevelt.

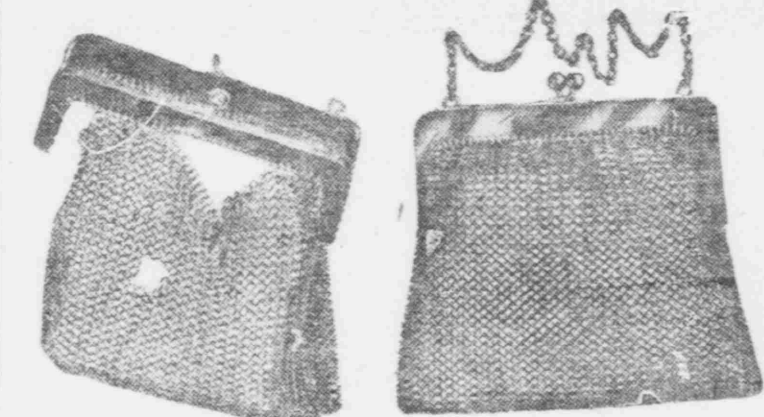
Fat Defeating Extraordinary.



Margaret Knolly

SLENDER Margaret Knolly, now, if you please. The fascinating leading lady of the Bijou, now more fascinating than ever, astonished all her friends on Broadway the other day by presenting to their admiring gaze a swift and willowy form in place of the plump, up-to-say-fat, outlines with which she gaily sailed away to new triumphs and foreign shores last January. After a good deal of diplomatic cross-examination from interested fat acquaintances, the secret was cautiously whispered to a few dear friends, with the result that everybody knows it now. It was not exercise, nor fasting, nor new underwear worry about her new venture that had brought about this wonderful willow change in the charming Margaret, none of these, nothing but a simple mixture which all good druggists are familiar with and can supply at small cost. Look out, fat folks! Marmola, one-half ounce Fluid Extract Cascara Aromatic and three and one-half ounces Peppermint Water. Grocers, folks need a teaspoonful after meals and at bedtime. It is simply wonderful. It takes the fat off, the fat quickly, at such a pound a day, and keeps it off. You can eat what you like, too. In that respect it is unlike anything of the kind I ever heard of, and besides it has another splendid feature—it is entirely harmless, and will not cause wrinkles. I think it is about as essential a toilet article for the woman who is fat and wants to get thinner as face powder. In order to get the best results, however, you should buy the Marmola in the original package, and mix it in with the other two big ingredients after you get home.

LET LUCIOS REPAIR IT



This mesh bag, which we illustrate, was received by Lucios February 23.

On February 24 Lucios returned the same mesh bag to the owner. The transformation from old to new cost but \$1.00.

Our Cut-Rate Repair Department Is Now a Permanent Feature
Half Price Only for Remodeling Discarded Jewelry

Last week AS AN EXPERIMENT Lucios' New York office loaned us the services of two of their expert repairmen and remodelers. So great and unexpected has been the demand for their services that this department has now become a permanent feature of the Lucios store. These men are masters of their art, experts of many years' experience. Under their skillful workmanship

Artistic Creations Are Made From Old and Discarded Jewelry

Not only is their work the best obtainable in the city, but the prices are just half what you'd be charged elsewhere for workmanship of inferior quality. Don't miss this remarkable cut-rate opportunity.

We quote below three early spring specials for three days only.

Tiffany Cluster RINGS
A cluster of extra quality Lucios Diamonds, with a variety of center stones to choose from. Never sold before for less than \$6. For this sale..... **\$2.50**

Three-Row Gentlemen's RINGS
Containing nine brilliant stones; handsomely mounted; the newest thing of the day for the man of refined tastes. Special..... **\$2.50**

High-Art Pendants
A Standard \$3.00 Value Everywhere Our Sale Price..... **\$1.00**
Imported French Gray Sterling Silver Pendants, in many new and original designs; strikingly artistic.

LUCIOS HIGH-ART JEWELRY
1307 F Street N. W.

FRANK T. KNOC K FURNITURE CO. INC.

311 Seventh Street Opposite Saks & Co.

Great End of Season Sale of Fine Furniture at Factory Cost

You can buy the Finest Furniture in the World here in this sale at wholesale prices. "You get the profits." Liberal credit and every possible courtesy and accommodation.

Beautiful Present Free to Every Purchaser This Week



\$1.89 for this \$3.50 Solid Oak **Rocker**
Well made and finely finished; saddle seat; factory price. **\$1.39**



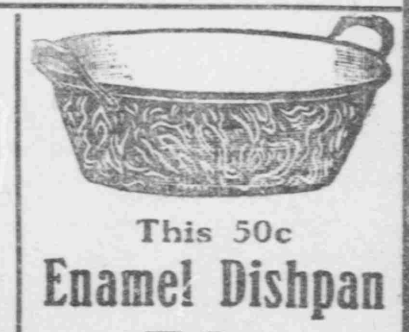
"1910" Go=Carts
See our spring showing of 1910 Go=Carts, in all stylish shapes and shades; latest improvements. Prices start from **\$1.98 up**

All Blankets and Comforts at Half Price



\$6 Toilet Set With Jar, \$2.98
Finely decorated in beautiful designs; 12 pieces. Value, \$6.00. Special factory price, \$2.98.

Best Range in City for \$10.50



This 50c Enamel Dishpan 39c
Great bargain—purchase of Finest Triple-coat 4 1/2 size Blue Enamel Dishpan, with white porcelain enamel inside. Regular size and quality. This week only 39c.



For the last time

TO many of us will come the day when we must close the old desk for the last time. And still there may yet remain many days of life before us.

How are we preparing to spend those days? Are we providing for comfort and independence, or are we forgetting that the man who spends all he earns must some day become a burden upon others?

Are YOU building a fund for the days that will follow the final closing of the old desk?

Take our advice to save a part of your earnings as meaning more than a desire to secure new depositors. There's a kindly human interest as well as a business side to the proposition.

We urge you to open a savings account. We'll safeguard every dollar you can put to its credit. We'll pay you 3% interest, compounded every six months. And sometime we hope to know that our suggestion has brought you days—and months—and years of happiness.

Merchants and Mechanics Savings Bank
Branches: 7th & G Sts. N.W. Pa. Ave. & 10th St. N.W. Pa. Ave. & 20th St. N.W.